



December 15, 2005

Fact Sheet

USCIS ISSUES CITIZENSHIP AND NATURALIZATION FACTS

- According to a recent Pew Hispanic Center's report, 11.3 million naturalized citizens live in the United States.
- Nearly eight million immigrants living in the United States are eligible for naturalization.
- During fiscal year 2004 (the latest year for which complete naturalization data is available), USCIS welcomed more than 537,000 new citizens.
- Nearly seventy percent of all new citizens naturalized during FY 2004 call California, New York, Florida, Texas, Illinois, or New Jersey home.
- More than half (fifty-four percent) of all new citizens naturalized during FY 2004 were women.
- Asia is the leading region of birth among persons naturalizing. Forty-two percent of new citizens naturalized during FY 2004 were born in Asian countries.
- Home to more than 63,000 new citizens, Mexico is the leading country of birth among persons who naturalized during FY 2004.
- Since September 11, 2001, USCIS has naturalized 24,745 military service members.
- There are approximately 40,000 immigrant military service members serving on active duty around the world. During FY 2005, USCIS naturalized 8,504 military service members. A total of 7,498 service members were naturalized stateside and a total of 1,006 service members were naturalized overseas (OCONUS). USCIS is currently working 3,472 (as of October 20, 2005) military naturalization applications.
- Since the beginning of the War of Terrorism (September 11, 2001 – Executive Order 13269), USCIS has granted posthumous citizenship to 69 military service members. Sixty-five served in operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.. Four served during past conflicts (Vietnam service – 3, World War II service – 1).
- USCIS' Office of Citizenship recently introduced a New Immigrant Orientation Guide, Civics Flash Cards and other free tools to help applicants prepare for citizenship. These materials are available at <http://uscis.gov/graphics/citizenship>